

Edmund's Spurdog, *Squalus edmundsi*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Refer to Global Assessment	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Near Threatened
Assessors	White, W.		
Report Card Remarks	In Australia, low fisheries effort; large unmanaged catches in Indonesia		

Summary

Edmund's Spurdog is a little known deepwater dogfish that occurs in Western Australia and Indonesia. Nothing is known of its biology, though it is likely to have limiting life history characteristics similar to other deepwater *Squalus* species that render it vulnerable to high levels of exploitation. In Australia, it is a likely a



bycatch of deepwater trawl fisheries off Western Australia though these currently have low effort. The species is captured in relatively large numbers by deepwater longline fisheries in Indonesia, where it is commercially valued and populations have declined significantly. These declines in the Indonesian part of its range are suspected to continue. Therefore, the species is assessed as Near Threatened (IUCN) and in Australia, Sustainable (SAFS).

Distribution

Edmund's Spurdog occurs between Bunbury and the Rowley Shoals (Western Australia), and in Bali and Lombok (eastern Indonesia) (Last and Stevens 2009).

Stock structure and status

There is currently no information on population size, structure, or trend for the species.

Fisheries

The Australian range at which this species is known to occur falls within the North West Slope Trawl and Western Deepwater Trawl fishery areas. However, fishing effort is low with only a few boats in operation, and although details on bycatch are currently unavailable, given the low fishing effort, it is not likely there is cause for concern. The species, however is caught in large numbers by deepwater fisheries in Indonesia where it is utilised for its meat, fins and liver oil. Indonesian deepwater fisheries operate throughout the depth range at which this species is most common. Although deepwater fisheries are not operating below 600 m off Indonesia, expansion of Indonesian deepwater fisheries for squaloid sharks is highly likely (White et al. 2006). There is anecdotal evidence to suggest squaloid shark catches have declined rapidly at one landing site, Cilacap, in the ten years or more prior to 2006,

despite it being only a relatively restricted fishery (White et al. 2006). There may be some refuge from fishing pressure for this species in the deeper portions of its depth range off Australia.

Habitat and biology

The Edmund's Spurdog occurs on the continental slope in depths of 200 to 850 m (mostly 300 to 500 m). Maximum size is at least 87 cm total length (TL), with males mature by 54 cm TL (Last and Stevens 2009). Little else is known of its biology.

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: at least 87 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Males: 54 cm TL Females: unknown

Link to IUCN Page: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/158617/5241742>

Link to page at Shark References: <http://www.shark-references.com/species/view/Squalus-edmundsi>

References

- Last, P.R. and Stevens, J.D. 2009. Sharks and Rays of Australia. CSIRO Division of Fisheries, Hobart.
- White, W.T., Fahmi, Dharmadi and Potter, I.C. 2006. Preliminary investigation of artisanal deep-sea chondrichthyan fisheries in Eastern Indonesia. In: Shotton, R. (ed.) (ed.), In: Deep Sea 2003: Conference on the Governance and Management of Deep-sea Fisheries. Part 2: Conference poster papers and workshop papers, pp. 381-387. FAO, Rome.